

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOMALI ASSISTANCE

REF: MOGADISCIO 1571

1. IBRD REPS TOLLEY AND MYINT (REFTEL) CALLED ON AMBASSADOR AND DCM NOV. 14. FOLLOWING THREE DAYS NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOMALIS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF ARAB, KUWAIT, AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, IT WAS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) \$20 MILLION (KUWAIT FUND) WILL BE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO RANGELANDS PROJECTS LOCATED IN NORTH;

(B) \$20 MILLION (ARAB FUND) WILL BE DEVOTED TO DEVELOPMENT IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN SOUTH;

(C) \$5 MILLION (ADB FUND) WILL BE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO HUMAN RESOURCES PROJECTS WITH HEAVY DS

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COMPONENT IN ALL THREE REHABILITATION CAMPS IN SOCH; AND

(D) \$8 MILLION (IBRD FUND) WILL BE DEVOTED TO A MIX OF DRY-LAND AND IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN LOWER SHEBELLE REGION, SOME OF WHICH ALREADY

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UNDERWAY BY SOMALIA.

2. TOLLEY AND MYINT OBVIOUSLY IMPRESSED WITH SOMALI HOSTS' PROFESSIONALISM IN CHAIRING THESE NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL AS TRIPS TO DEVELOPMENT AREAS (EXCLUDING NORTH). FINANCE MINISTER, NUR HERSI, WHO L
D GSDR DELEGATION DESCRIBED IN PARTICULAR AS VIGOROUS AND CAPABLE. THEIR ONLY HESITATION CONCERNED PRACTICAL ASPECTS UTILIZATION WATER RESOURCES IN LOWER SHEBELLE ANL FACT THAT THERE STILL
NO RPT NO RIPARIAN AGREEMENT WITH ETHIOPIA. MYINT IN PARTICULAR CONCERNED WITH EXISTING IRRIGATION WORKS UNDERTAKEN BY SOMALIS IN AREA IN WHICH IBRD PROJECTS WILL BE LOCATED. THERE ARE

APPARENTLY
ALREADY INDICATIONS OF HIGH INCIDENCE OF SALINITY AND NEED FOR EXTENSIVE BUTTRESSING EXISTING IRRIGATION DITCHES.

3. BOTH LEAVE HERE CONVINCED THAT REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION WILL BE PREPARED SO THAT FINAL AGREEMENTS CAN BE SIGNED IN JANUARY.

4. COMMENT: TOLLEY INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NO RPT NO DISCUSSION OF \$25 MILLION SHELF PROJECTS (REFTEL). HOWEVER IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH MEGEG SAMANTAR, US-TRAINED ECONOMIST AND MEMBER OF ECONOMIC COMMISSION, TOLLEY LEFT WITH DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT SOMALIS, WHILE THOROUGHLY APPRECIATIVE OF US DECISION TO RESUME AID, ARE EQUALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF AID'S THINKING FOR FUTURE YEARS, AND, IN LATTER REGARD, SOMALI'S EXPECTATIONS MAY BORDER ON GRANDIOSE. BOTH AMBASSADOR AND DCM EMPHASIZED THAT OUR ONLY MANDATE IS TO DISCUSS UTILIZATION FUNDS SO FAR AVAILABLE AND NOT RPT NOT FUTURE US ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA.
LOUGHRAN

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